

Let Me Tell You About Rosencrantz

(Poem)

-by Brian Edwards



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Let me tell you
About Rosencrantz
Rosencrantz
Rosencrantz

Let me tell you
About Rosencrantz

We both went on a ship
To England
Back then

And here I am
Here I am

And there's no sign
Of Rosencrantz

But here I am
Here I am

In a post-post-modern
Industrial
Cyber world

I connect
In Wi-Fi cafés
And on the streets
On the streets

Rosencrantz

Is no more

On the streets

Existentialism

Got him

Sent him away

To afterlife

Dimensions

Rosencrantz

Rosencrantz

Songs to you

They sing

With cheap wine

Under bridges

If there isn't

A statue of you somewhere

There needs to be

Nihilism and duty

You played the game

Only too well

And lost a head

They said was yours

Rosencrantz

Rosencrantz

Stepping off

The Metro

At 3 pm

Looking for you

In the face

Of every stranger

I think

Of you

From hotel balconies

With my cigarettes

And contemplations

And my unwillingness

To accept

A Cartesian lobotomy

Of the soul

Rosencrantz

What you revealed to me

Of Super Nova implosions

I'll remember

Rosencrantz

Eulogies of you

Blasted out

By sonic warfare machines

Hot dog vendors

In possession

Of the omens

They sent you

On a doomed mission

Everyone knew

The prince was crazier

Than a full moon prowler

“Do it England” they said

And when you got there

An ax made you a martyr

To the absurd man

Loyal to a king

Who murdered

In gardens

All just dust and bones now

But Elsinore remains

Elsinore remains

Rosencrantz

Your name

Written

In liquor store neons

Your name written

In electric defiance

Rosencrantz

You staged your own death

Didn't you?

Did you go seek

Redemption

In Timbuktu ?

Made secret deals

Laundered money

For the English Crown

Delivered barrels

Of whiskey

From Scotland

Was that you

Rosencrantz

Where a more serene destiny

Is impaled

At thrash metal concerts

Who were you ?

Who am I ?

Both men of the absurd

Men who strive for coin

Until we meet our end

Rosencrantz

Down avenues

Of marijuana mind bliss

Rosencrantz

You were sorely missed

During the Opium Wars

Rosencrantz

Patron saint

Of ravens

Perched along

Italian castle walls

The summer will bring

Power grid failures

And riots

Tear gas dreams

At midnight

In its own way

This is still

The world you knew

Rosencrantz

Rosencrantz

Rosencrantz

Rosencrantz

Blurry streetlights

In LSD

Self-discovery

Astral journey

Engulfed by ravines of madness

Precision crossing

By measures of the quadrant

We've navigated

Between.....

Bimini narco islands before

We both remember

The eighties

And the nineties well

And all of the political horseshit

At times

It was like

There was an Atom Bomb

On the roof

Televisions fed us

Propaganda

And circus

Somethings

Don't ever change

They just wear

More glitter of falsity

Rosencrantz

We'll remember you

During bong sessions

You sought to end

All that Danish madness

And it brought you

To your end

But also

To a new beginning

You're part

Of the collective subconscious now

We pour out beer

Upon the flowers

In your honor

Rosencrantz

Rosencrantz

A vision in the heavens

Dodging space junk

Ancient forest

Full of e-waste

You are beyond

Any of this now

You have been resurrected

In page after page

Rosencrantz

Always with us

Rosencrantz

Not the first

And certainly

Not the last

Absurd martyr

Of an absurd dominion

Rosencrantz

On social media

Rosencrantz

On the moon

Rosencrantz

I heard your name
Through a faint signal
From a desolate tundra

Rosencrantz
The Doomsday Clock
Will soon strike eleven
Or maybe it already did

I should be paying
Better attention
To the bubonic.....
Dance macabre
In this world

I don't want to see it
Then so many more
Princes and kings
Will go mad
And fall from their thrones

All these streets of jazz
They will always
Remember you
Rosencrantz
Rosencrantz

We will light
Electric candles

In our madhouses

And think of you

-June, 2018